the Government of India sends us that stuff we shall indeed find it rather difficult to get over our present situation. And we have impressed on the Government of India that the foodstuffs are intended for our immediate local consumption and not for any other purpose, and I think that the idea is now weighing with the Government of India.

Purchase of Rice from Sind, Baluchistan and the Punjab.

2 *MR. M. R. NARAYANA PILLAI: Will the Government be pleased to state whether any State Rice Officer was deputed for the purchase of rice in Sind, Baluchistan or the Punjab as at Tanjore?

MR. K. R. NARAYANA AIYAR: Yes; in Sind and in the Punjab.

MR. M. R. NARAYANA PILLAI: May I know the names of the officers so appointed?

MR. K. R. NARAYANA AIYAR: Mr. Mohammed Sahib was sent to Sind and Mr. Chandrasekharan was on duty in the Punjab.

MR. M. R. NARAYANA PILLAI: Was there any separate State representative in the Punjab while Mr. Rangaswami Aiyangar was on duty in Tanjore?

MR. K. R. NARAYANA AIYAR: Mr. Chandrasekharan was representing both Cochin and Travancore in the Punjab.

Rice Mills.

3 *MR. M. R. NARAYANA PILLAI: Will the Government be pleased to state the reason for prohibiting the operation of rice mills in Travancore?

MR. K. R. NARAYANA AIYAR: The attention of the honourable member is invited to the Press Note dated 2nd February 1943 issued by the Government on the subject.

MR. M. R. NARAYANA PILLAI: May I know whether the honourable member refers to the Press Note dated 1st February, 1943 in this connection?

MR. K. R. NARAYANA AIYAR: No, Sir. It is an entirely different Press Note, which gives categorical reasons why the rice mills were closed down.

Kayal Poramboke for Punja Cultivation.

4 *MR. T. C. KESAVA PILLAI (*Kalkulam* cum *Vilavankod*): Will the Government be pleased to state whether they have any definite idea of the actual area of Kayal poramboke both North and South Travancore to be thrown open for Punja cultivation?

RAJYASEVAPRAVINA G. PARAMESWARAN PILLAI (*Chief Secretary to Government*): The answer is in the negative. The matter is under investigation.

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MR. T. C. KESAVA PILLAI : വെള്ളായണി, വേളി, കഠിനകുളം എന്നീ തെക്കിണതിരുവിതാംകൂറിലുള്ള കായലുകളിൽ പൊതുജനാരോഗ്യത്തിനു ബാധകമല്ലാത്ത സ്ഥലങ്ങളിൽ നെൽകൃഷിക്കായി പതിച്ചോ കുത്തകപ്പാട്ടമായിട്ടോ കൊടുക്കുന്നതിൽ വിരോധമുണ്ടോ ?

PRESIDENT : Order, order. I want to make it absolutely clear that so numerous and influential have been the applications for Vellayani that the Government do not propose to lease Vellayani to anybody. As important people from many quarters have respectfully applied for reasons which are so obvious, we do not propose to touch Vellayani at present.

MR. T. C. KESAVA PILLAI : വലിയ ആളുകാർക്കു കൊടുക്കേണ്ടാ. സാധുക്കളായ ആളുകാർക്കു അയ്യുണ്ടാക്കർ വീതം കൊടുക്കുന്നതിനു വിരോധം ഉണ്ടോ ?

PRESIDENT : We are convinced that if it comes to any *Sadhus*, it will go back to *Non-Sadhus* (Laughter).

MR. KANNANTHODATH JANARDANAN NAIR : Do those applications include any member of this Legislature also ?

PRESIDENT : Order, order. I do not think that is a fair question. In the matter of applications for themselves or for their friends or relations asking for registries of lands or any other concessions, members of the Legislature are as much members of the public. They are, no doubt, bound to exercise a certain amount of restraint in asking for favour, but if they are entitled to a request that request will not be turned down solely because they are members of the House, though of course members of the House will bear all these things in mind when making those requests.

Raising the embankment at Kannankuzhi.

5. *MR. M. R. NARAYANA PILLAI : Will the Government be pleased to state the causes delaying the commencement of the work of raising the embankment at Kannankuzhi (Tiruvalla-Mavelikara road) and of improving the Kidangannoor section of the Pandalam-Aranmula road in spite of the express provision of funds for these works in the budget estimates for 1119 and the undertaking given by the Chief Engineer that the work would be completed before the floods in 1119 ?

MR. I. C. CHACKO (*Chief Engineer, Roads, Irrigation and Miscellaneous*) : The delay is due to the time required for the investigation of the flood levels and irrigation requirements of the adjoining paddy fields before preparing the estimates for raising the Kannankuzhi embankment and the difficulty in settling the contract arrangements, on account of the present day abnormal conditions for improving the Kidangannoor section of Pandalam-Aranmula road.

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